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(54) Title: POLYMER MATRIX FOR EXTENDING VASE LIFE OF CUT FLOWERS

(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to a polymer matrix for extending the vase life of cut flowers, which matrix comprises a charged and crosslinked polymer, wherein the matrix, in the presence of water, forms a gel, which gel immobilizes bacteria on the basis of electrostatic interactions between the gel and the bacterial. Further, the invention relates to a gel obtained by contacting the polymer matrix according to the invention with a limited amount of water. Also, the invention relates to an envelope containing a particular amount of the matrix or gel according to the invention. The invention also relates to a care product for cut flowers which comprises the polymer matrix or the gel according to the invention.